

# TRADITIONAL GRAMMATICAL TERMS

## LISTS AND RULES

In many cases **foundation** has substituted a less common grammatical term or description for a more traditional one. The following list gives those traditional terms and their meanings described in this book. Use this list when you encounter these terms in other English courses.

### TRADITIONAL TERMS

### MEANINGS

<b>Antecedent</b>	Pronoun reference
<b>Article</b>	The adjectives <b>a</b> , <b>an</b> , and <b>the</b>
<b>Auxiliary verb</b>	Helping verb
<b>Case</b>	Forms of nouns and pronouns
<b>Comparative degree</b>	Form of adjective with <b>-er</b> or <b>more</b> added
<b>Conjunctive adverb</b>	Adverb like however, punctuated as an interrupter and used after a semicolon to connect two main clauses
<b>Coordinating conjunction</b>	Conjunction that joins equals
<b>Definite article</b>	The adjective <b>the</b>
<b>Direct object</b>	Object of a verb
<b>Ellipsis</b>	Hidden word
<b>Expletive</b>	It and there in some sentences that begin “It is,” and so on
<b>Gerund</b>	-Ing word used as a noun
<b>Indefinite article</b>	The adjective <b>a</b> or <b>an</b>
<b>Interjection</b>	Word like <b>oh</b> or <b>no</b> used as an interrupter, usually in speech
<b>Interrogative pronoun</b>	Question pronoun, such as <b>who</b>
<b>Intransitive verb</b>	Verb that cannot have an object
<b>Modifier</b>	Adjective or adverb (word, phrase, or clause); descriptive word, phrase, or clause
<b>Nominative case</b>	Subject form of nouns and pronouns
<b>Nominative complement</b>	Complement following a linking verb
<b>Objective case</b>	Subject form of nouns and pronouns; possessive adjective

<b>Particle</b>	Word like on that looks like an adverb but is part of the verb in meaning (Example: “Turn on the light”); a preposition or a conjunction
<b>Possessive case</b>	Possessive form of nouns and pronouns; possessive adjective
<b>Predicate</b>	Verb
<b>Predicate adjective</b>	Adjective complement (following a linking verb)
<b>Predicate nominative</b>	Noun or pronoun complement (following a linking verb)
<b>Present participle</b>	-Ing word used as an adjective or part of a verb phrase
<b>Principle parts</b>	Main forms (of verbs)
<b>Pronominal adjective</b>	Possessive adjective form of a personal pronoun or <b><u>who</u></b>
<b>Relative pronoun</b>	Adjective clause tip-off word; noun clause tip-off word <b><u>that</u></b>
<b>Subjective case</b>	Subject form of a noun or pronoun
<b>Subjective complement</b>	Complement (following a linking verb)
<b>Subordinate clause</b>	Dependent clause
<b>Subordinate conjunction</b>	Adverb clause tip-off word,; noun word clause tip-off word like <b><u>that</u></b>
<b>Superlative degree</b>	Form of adjective or adverb with <b><u>-est</u></b> or <b><u>most</u></b> added
<b>Transitive verb</b>	Verb that can have an object
<b>Verb of being</b>	Linking verb like <b><u>is</u></b>
<b>Verb of sense</b>	Linking verb like <b><u>tastes</u></b> and <b><u>seems</u></b>